

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6 1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200 DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

November 17, 2010

Honorable John Antonio, Senior Governor Pueblo of Laguna P.O. Box 194 Laguna, New Mexico 87026

Dear Governor Antonio:

Thank you for your commitment of time by participating in the Jackpile Mine conference call of November 8. This letter is to follow-up with you on several requests from that call.

As we discussed, further investigation of sources of the surface water contamination and interactions of the ground water to surface water is needed to develop an understanding of contaminant migration from Jackpile Mine, this information is critical in determining CERCLA releases. This investigation would be conducted through an Expanded Site Inspection (ESI). A draft ESI sampling plan is being developed and we would like to invite the Pueblo of Laguna Environmental Department, Pueblo of Laguna Jackpile Reclamation Project Technician Marvin Sarracino and partners with historical knowledge of Jackpile Mine, such as the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management and the United States Geological Survey, to participate and provide input to the draft ESI sampling plan.

EPA would like to have a meeting with the Laguna Environmental Staff along with our Federal partners to provide input on an ESI sampling plan. We would like to propose a meeting date of December 7 or 8, for these discussions. Please let us know at your earliest convenience if either of these dates would work.

If you have any questions regarding our activities at the Jackpile Mine, please contact me at 214-665-6742 or Brenda Cook of my staff at 214-665-7436.

Sincerely yours,

Section Chief

Risk and Site Assessment Section

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